

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-32, 34-38, 41-75 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 8, and 41-44 are currently amended. Claims 11-24, 46-60, 62-75 have been withdrawn by the Examiner.

Claims 45 and 61 are listed as allowed.

Support for current amendments can be found throughout the specification and specifically in paragraphs [0009], and [0046] of the application as published.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶1—Written Description

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-10, 25-32, 34-38 and 41-44 for failure to comply with the written description requirement. According to the Examiner, the terms “from 19 to about 30 consecutive nucleotides,” as recited in claims 1-6, 8-10, 25-32, 34-38, 43-44, and “from 19 to about 28 consecutive nucleotides,” as recited in claims 41 and 42, are allegedly new matter.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. In order to advance the prosecution of this application, and without conceding the correctness of the Examiner’s rejection, applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 8, 43, and 44 herein to remove the word “about.” However, applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the original claims reciting of “from 19 to about 30” in a future continuation application.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and request that the Examiner permit this case to proceed to allowance.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the grounds for rejection and allow the pending claims to proceed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions, she is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Authorization is given to apply any charges that may be due, or any credits owed, to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,



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